

Order for the Worship of God

Highland Presbyterian Church

¹ Sunday after Christmas

January 3, 2016

*In the quiet of meditation, know that when grace descends
the world falls silent before it.
Turn but your heart, and an angel moves.*

Gathering around THE WORD

PRELUDE

Dr. Kit Loong Yee

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Alan Cutter

ENTERING SONG

Joy to the World
(verses 1 & 2)

Hymn 40

CALL TO WORSHIP

Dr. Tom Tupper

OPENING SONG

In Bethlehem a Babe Was Born

Welcome to this place where we seek our hearts' true home.

**Here, we gather with God's people;
here, we hold one another in our hearts.**

Welcome to this place where we seek our hearts' true home.

Here, God looks in favor on us; here, we discover God's intentions for us.

Welcome to this place where we seek our hearts' true home.

Here, we find a feast prepared for us; here, we taste God's grace and hope.

Welcome to this place!

Where we find our hearts' true home.

OPENING PRAYER

**Blessed God, Faithful Promise-Giver:
you hold us in your love and will not let us go,
no matter how often we may break your heart.**

**Jesus Christ, Dawn from on high:
we remember your birth with joy and await your Day,
when you complete your work of love and grace.**

**Holy Spirit, Refiner and Renewer of God's people:
you invite us to share in the gospel,
to grow in understanding,
to live with one another,
to cope with anxiety,
to serve the world in God's name.**

**God in Community, Holy in One:
we join in worship on this day,
seeking, praying, celebrating,
knowing you are here with us. Amen.**

+CALL TO CONFESSION

(Silent confession)

+CONFESSION

**Refining God, it is hard for us to admit we are not a blank slate.
We trust the promises of politicians,
but don't believe the ones you have made.**

**We find ourselves captive to emotions and lusts that stir our hearts,
but doubt you can save us.**

**We prefer the shadowy streets of the world, rather than walking in the light.
Forgive us, Faithful One.**

May the Light of Christ show us your way;

May the Love of Christ overflow from our lives to others;

May the Life of Christ be our model as we seek to be your people.

At this sign, you are invited to rise in body or in spirit.

Bold: all people respond.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE AND FORGIVENESS

Do you feel it? God's tender mercy rests on you, heals you, transforms you.
Do you see it? God's Light breaks into our lives, and shows us the way.

**Renewed and made whole, we see the path God has prepared for us -
the way of peace,
the way of hope,
the way of grace,
the way of service.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

PASSING THE PEACE

The hope, peace, joy and love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*Offer the peace of Christ to one another in word and
with a handshake, a hug, or other sign of peace.*

Proclaiming THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:1-16

HYMN

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

LAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 29:15-36

MON

BEHOLD!

Responding to THE WORD

HYMN

Bring We the Frankincense of Our Love

FERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

+DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sealing THE WORD

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Preparation of the Lord's Table

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord's Prayer (using sins & sin against us)

BREAKING THE BREAD AND SHARING THE CUP

Communion of the People

*All who have been baptized are welcomed
and encouraged to renew your baptism and receive sustenance at t
When invited to go forward, move toward the main aisle and procee
receive the bread, dip it into the cup, and partake.
If you are unable to come forward, you will be served at ye*

Rev. Dr. Alan Cutter

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Bearing and Following THE WORD into th

+HYMN

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

+CHARGE & BLESSING

+RESPONSE
Hymn 62

*Joy to the World
(verse 4)*

+POSTLUDE